



# Promoting Access to New Therapies and Improving Public Health Infrastructures in the Developing World

Dr Cathy Garner

MIHR – The Centre for Management for  
Intellectual Property in Health Research and  
Development

IIPi Conference 2003



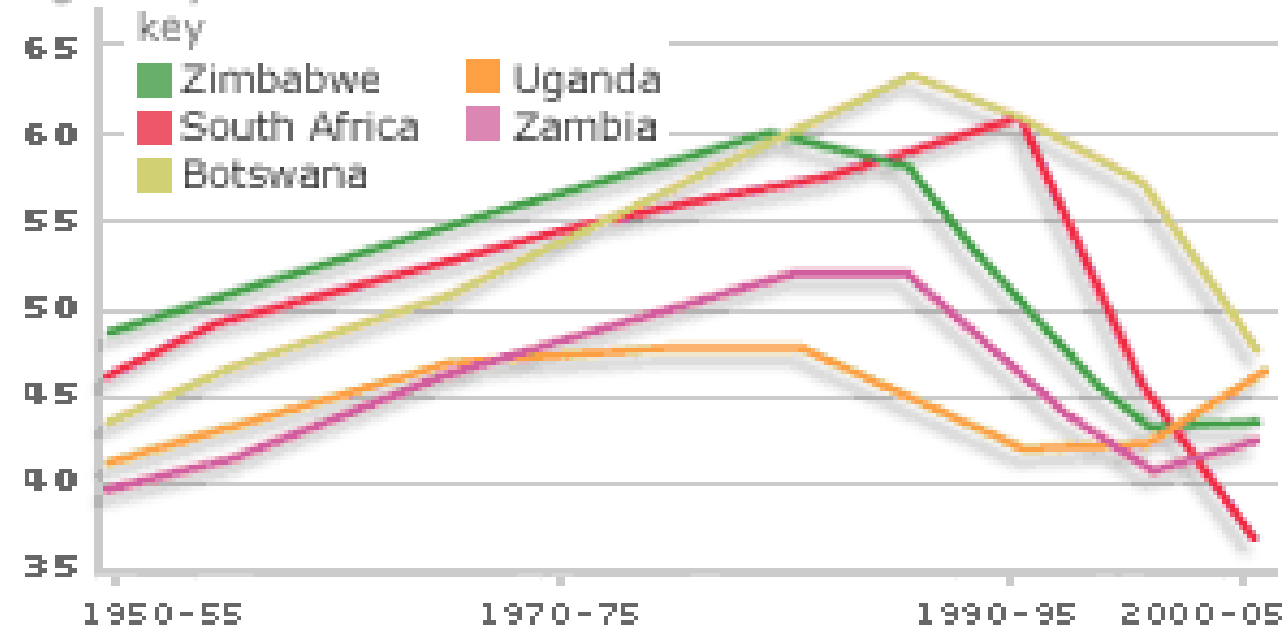
## What's left to say?

- § Have heard much on:
  - § Benefits of IP system for innovation
  - § IP focus of malcontents
  - § Many analyses of alternatives
  - § Many approaches for access to medicines in short term
  
- § Have heard less about:
  - § What should developing countries be doing?
  - § Human rights AND human responsibilities
  - § Bright people in an asymmetric world

# The challenge: addressing health inequity needs new approaches and new tools

## Aids in Africa, life-expectancy

Age in years



SOURCE : UNITED NATIONS POPULATION DIVISION



## The challenges: hurdles to be overcome

- § Lack of access to drugs and medicines
- § Shortage of resources - the 10/90 gap
- § Lack of access to new science – 75% OECD; 0.4% Africa
- § Limited understanding and appreciation of the role of intellectual asset management in health research and development
- § Uneven development of IP systems under TRIPS
- § Inefficient processes and systems for health innovation
- § Lack of capacity to adapt/adopt international good practices and processes – to become global players – in-license and develop new medicines
- § Lack of access to global networks – connectivity
- § Exploitation of resources without equitable returns - Traditional Knowledge, clinical trial platforms
- § Insufficient scale to achieve a level playing field



## Challenges and Yet Opportunities

Short- term imperatives AND medium to long term differences

š The opportunities?

š IP systems not yet consolidated

š Biotech dividend – global search for natural products in particular

š Asymmetries – both ways

š Capacity to engage – San people

š Role of public sector – in provision of drugs – experience of segmented markets

š Role of public sector in R&D – Universities – a unique role to play?

**MIHR**  
A STEP NEARER EQUITY

# Breakthroughs in research create new opportunities for promoting health equity



*commentary*

## Top ten biotechnologies for improving health in developing countries

Abdallah S. Daar<sup>1,2</sup>, Halla Thorsteinsdóttir<sup>1,2</sup>, Douglas K. Martin<sup>3-6</sup>, Alyna C. Smith<sup>1,2</sup>, Shauna Naot<sup>1,2</sup> & Peter A. Singer<sup>2,5</sup>

Most research into genomics and other related biotechnologies is conceived with the priorities of industrialized nations, and yet a limited number of projects have shown that these technologies could help improve health in developing countries. To encourage the successful application of biotechnology to global health, we carried out a study in which we asked an international group of eminent scientists with expertise in global health issues to identify the top ten biotechnologies for improving health in developing countries. The results offer concrete guidance to those in a position to influence the direction of research and development, and challenge common assumptions about the relevance and affordability of biotechnology for developing countries.

*nature genetics* • volume 32 • October 2010

HUMAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
REPORT 2001

to build on our existing knowledge  
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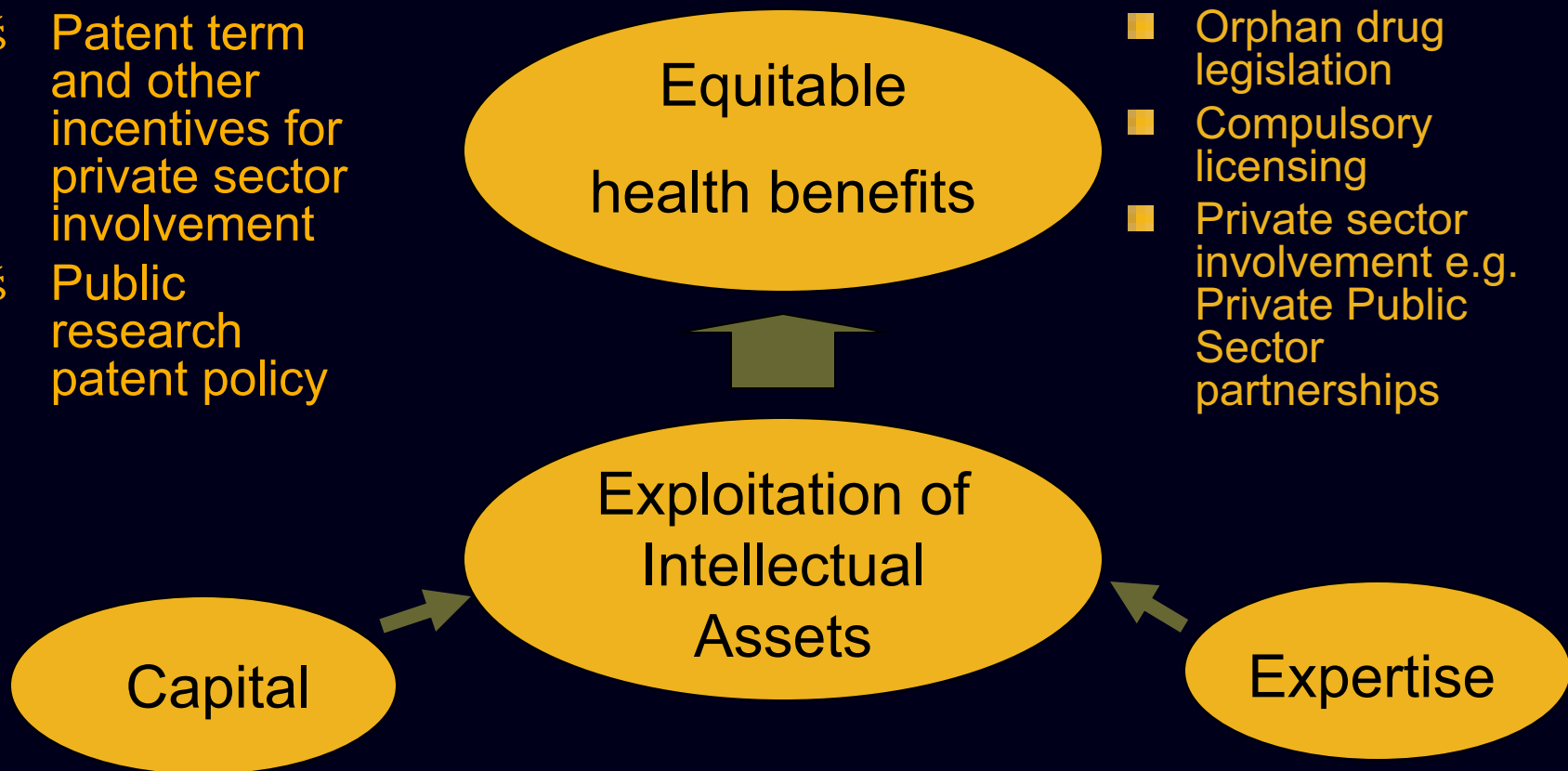


MAKING  
NEW TECHNOLOGIES  
WORK FOR  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

## Realising these opportunities affects many parts of public policy

- § Patent term and other incentives for private sector involvement
- § Public research patent policy

- Orphan drug legislation
- Compulsory licensing
- Private sector involvement e.g. Private Public Sector partnerships





## MIHR is focused on 4 key areas

Š Capacity building in IP Management and policy development

Š Technical Assistance and providing IP management tool kits

Š Research into new IP and licensing approaches

Š Information dissemination



Promoting better access to priority health products in developing countries



## MIHR's Role and Contribution

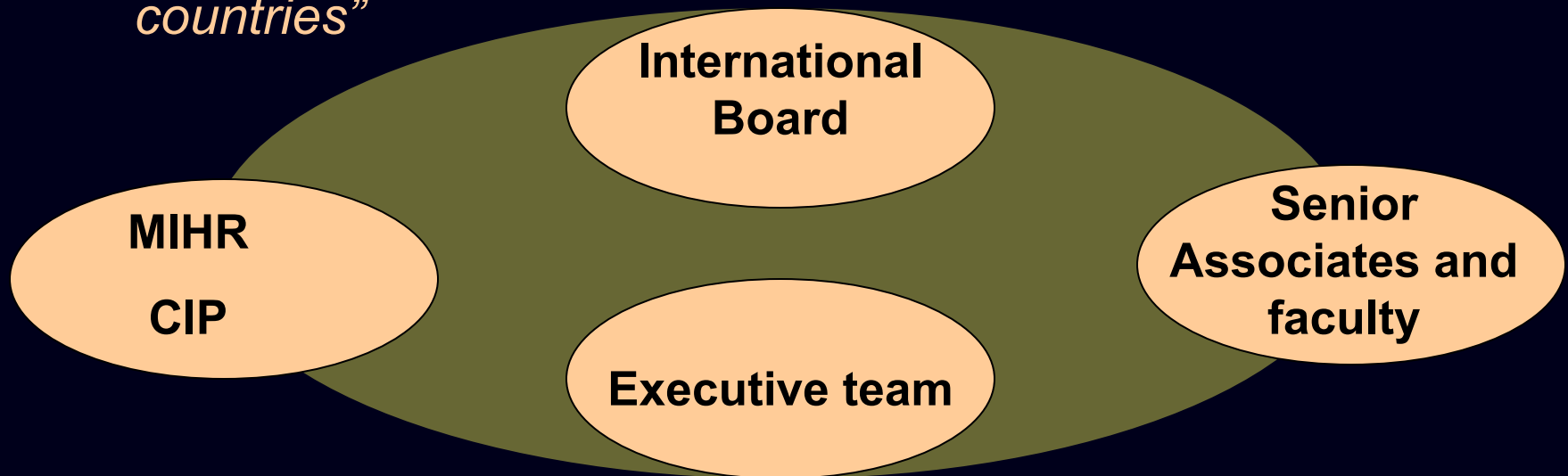
- § Action Programme – in Partnership:
  - § South Africa – 2 workshops; policy development ; centre of excellence for regional support with MRC and SARIMA
  - § Egypt – capacity building – support in global market
  - § India – Wellcome Senior Scientists
  - § Mexico – National Institutes of Health
  - § Research in Korea and with global partners
  - § Handbook of good practices
  - § With AUTM members – Special Interest Group
  
- § Building the infrastructure to create sustainable futures is the challenge – working in partnership is the opportunity



# MIHR: Who we are

## *Vision*

*“To contribute to a world in which creative management of intellectual property leads to better health in developing countries”*





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## Conclusion

***“Tell me and I forget. Show me and I remember.  
Involve me and I understand”***

***Ancient Chinese Proverb***

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